

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1873.

Political Morals.

There is certainly policy in good morals, but experience has shown that there is very little morality left in politics.

The great Tammany exposures and later those of the Credit Mobilier, and of Pomeroy's bribery reveal a picture of a want of moral principle among men high in honor and position, that is perfectly appalling.

Corruption, the amassment of sudden and fabulous fortunes, committees of investigation and ruin is, briefly, the career of alas! too many of the most trusted and honored servants of the people.

Indeed so common is the evil, that a universal stigma is thrown upon politics and office. Every candidate is suspected; every office-holder condemned.

What is the cause of this prevalence of crime in high places?

"Not to put too fine a point on it," it is simply the *auri sacra fumes*, the accursed love of gold.

Too many men seek office for self and party. Partisans on either side ascribe this political immorality to the platforms and organizations of the different parties.

How absurd! Political principles so called have no connection with individual integrity. The one is a matter of opinion the other a matter of moral perception and duty. A may believe in the doctrine of State rights, B may not, yet both be equally honest.

No political dogma has a tendency to make its disciples steal.

The cause lies in temptation. The remedy, of course, is either to remove the temptation or to expose only those who can resist it, to its influence. The former is rather beyond the scope of this article. The accumulated and glittering piles of public money fused and mixed, wherein no man knoweth his own, must be handled by some one. The temptation is strong. How to increase the responsibility, accountability and security; how to make the punishment of embezzlement, more certain and terrible, are themes for future political philosophers and subjects for legislative study.

The latter is more practicable and can be accomplished.

Men can be found with the moral nerve to withstand the presence of temptation in its most voluptuous and subtle form, and not fall. How to get these men! It is said that this is a nation of politicians. Every man is a politician.

Every man, however ignorant on other subjects he may be, can tell you all the political parties, platforms, principles, doctrines and prospects. This is what is said of us as a people. Certainly every man is anxious to define his political position. Who has not been a victim, in daily intercourse, of this disposition to define exactly.

The farmer in bargaining for his land accurately and elaborately defines his political outlook. Almost every witness, who ascends the stand keeps the Court waiting to hear "what he knows of this case," until he defines himself politically as "not one of these men, who," &c.

We are all political philosophers, (and astronomers, too).

But yet the keen crafty few beguile a nation. They, whose business is politics, whose trade is office, whose aim is plunder, know how to cater to and humor this political knowledge and how to make it pay.

If this people were less politicians and more practical, a better day would dawn.

Never was there a greater falsehood than the political maxim, "Measures not men."

Let the people, in the primary selections of those who choose for them, from their local and personal knowledge of character and ability, select "men" who are honest, trustworthy and capable, and "measures" for their highest good will be the result.

The whole philosophy of political morals is embodied in this. The problem is solved right here.

Mind not the eloquent discussions of political measures and platforms, but seek for the right men and trust them with the discussion and adoption of those measures that must redound to the people's good.

The Work of the Session.

The results of the Session of the Legislature of 1872-3, which lasted three months exactly may be clearly seen in the following *resumé* of the acts of a public nature that have passed and been approved by the Governor.

Authorizing and directing the Comptroller General and County Commissioners to levy certain taxes.

To repeal the license law.

Providing for the extension of the time for the payment and collection of taxes for the fiscal year commencing November 1st 1872.

To empower the Supreme Court to frame issues and direct the same to be tried in the Circuit Court, and to order referees in certain cases.

To amend the act providing for the election of officers of the incorporated towns in the State.

To require State and County officers to qualify within 30 days.

Requiring County Commissioners to give bonds.

To ratify the amendment to the State Constitution relative to the increase of the State debt.

To ratify the amendment to the State Constitution relative to time of elections.

To punish any persons who shall sell or convey any real property &c, on which a lien of any kind may exist without notice to purchaser.

Concerning School funds.

For the better protection of religious worship.

To enforce the payment of the Poll taxes.

To provide for the purchasers of lands at sales for non payment of taxes.

To revise the homestead act and reduce it to one act.

Appropriations for fiscal year 1873.

To provide for a State Normal School.

To regulate the fees of Probate Judges Trial Justices and other officers.

Various acts to amend the General Statutes in the following places:

Chapter 25, Sec. 2; Chapter 103, Sec. 12; Chapter 83, Sec. 5, 6 and 7; Chapter 7, Sec. 98, 99 and 100; Chapter 120; Chapter 62, Sec. 6; Chapter 14 Sec. 17; Chapter 50, Sec. 4; Chapter 3 Sec. 3.

This embraces all the Legislation of the last Session of a public and general nature.

The other acts are all charters, amendments to charters and private acts.

Senator Patterson Scolded.

Hon. J. J. Patterson, recently elected Senator from this State in the United States Congress took his seat in the Senate on March 4th, without a dissenting voice or one word of opposition. A protest against his being seated was presented the night before but the opposition did not think it of sufficient importance, even to enter his credentials to the committee. Patterson, says an exchange, stood on the platform of a business man, and indulged in the prediction that his election will do much to develop the material interests of the people. "Let our just censure attend the true event."

"Ecce Homo."

Over President Grant's seat in the ball room of the inauguration was inscribed the legend "Ecce Homo." Was this exalted compliment, crized adulation or blasphemy? Which?

It is due, however, to the Committee of Arrangements to say, that it was the artist who placed these words over the Presidents chair, but that the Committee had them taken down.

Browning has given up dinner parties for the sake of his new poem.—*Ec.*

Our readers who saw us at the late Fireman's Dinner will be of course know that this is not us. No, sir, we shall never give up poultry for poetry.

In Portland, Oregon, a bachelor counted 294 inhabited baby-wagons in sight at one time. Pshaw! one can see 300 more or less in Orangeburg any pleasant day.

Inauguration Day.

Tuesday March 4th was an eventful day in Washington. President Grant was inaugurated for his second term as the Chief of this great nation. The day was a cold one, but this had no effect to deter the vast throng of visitors in the city from attending the interesting ceremony of the inaugural. The pageant is described as very grand, the grandest ever witnessed in America. A telegram says that the scene reminded one of the triumphal glories of Napoleon the First. The military gathered from all parts of the country, numbered five thousand men and presented a display unequalled since the grand review of the Federal armies in 1865. Washington was represented as one vast hotel. Never was there such an outpouring of the masses of the people. No one who witnessed the great picture can doubt that President Grant lives in the hearts of the people.

At 12 30 the President delivered his inaugural address from the Eastern portion of the Capital.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF GRANT. An exchange gives the following account of the personnel of the President.

"The President has a broad, but not a high forehead, his nose is slightly aquiline, his eyes blue and kindly his mouth grave, and when at rest, his chin square; his complexion somewhat ruddy and his hair nearly black. His face is a study. There are lines in it which show not only traces of deep thought, but the impress of painful experiences. There is a gentleness and patience in his manner which might lead a tyrant to suppose there was weakness somewhere in his composition, but for that grim, determined expression about the lower part of his face, the firmness of purpose that gives that square set to the shoulders and makes him from head to foot appear what he is—a man of decision but not of obstinate or stubborn will. He digests principles, he resolves expedients, and weighs the balance, he founds his acts on his constitutional prerogatives; the constitution is his chart and compass, and intent only on the national integrity and the common good, he fights it out on that line if the stars fall."

Editorial Scissors and Pen.

The City Council of Charleston has, by resolution invited President Grant to visit that city during his contemplated Southern tour and to be the guest of the City. The *Courier*, steady old boy, is delighted at it and explains in a heavy editorial, and says that the invitation is "well timed." Perhaps it is, since the President has indefinitely postponed his tour.

There is talk of forming a new State to be called "Alleghany," out of North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. It is also proposed to reduce Governor Moses' kingdom, by annexing the ancestral county of Pickens and the parent county of Coconoe to Georgia. What will Georgia give us for these two counties? Enough to pay the State debt? If so let's sell out. A county or two every decade will keep up our credit. But it will be hard to "keep up" with our geography. Our credit will be *mobiliier*, and we will soon be "sold out."

A correspondent of the Abbeville *Medium* says that a "muffled drum" was beat in Augusta on Washington's birthday.

The Columbia *Union* and *Herald* are sparring about an "Indian Girl" in that city. Where there is so much smoke there must be fire.

One of the lessons of the Credit Mobilier disclosures is, Beware how you name children.

DEBATE.

The next meeting in May of the State Agricultural and Mechanical Society, the following subjects are to be debated by the gentlemen named:

The culture of upland rice as a staple production in South Carolina.—Geo. T. Wicks, Richland.

The comparative advantages of labor-saving machinery and their adaptability to Southern labor and product.—M. L. Donaldson, Greenville.

Ploughing—its effect upon different soils at different seasons.—John A. Furman, Sumter.

The cheapest fertilizer, whether domestic or commercial, and the most economical time and method of its application.—Paul S. Felder, Orangeburg.

The most economical method of winnowing stocks.—Thomas Y. Moore, Spartanburg.

The South Carolina in greater need of labor or of capital?—James LeCutehen, Williamsburg.

With cheap lands and inefficient labor is the farmer better remunerated by superficial or high farming?—R. M. Nims, York.

It has been and is my earnest desire to correct the abuses that have sprung

up in the civilized portions of the country. To secure this reformation, rules regulating the methods of appointment and promotion were established and have been tried. My efforts at such reformation shall be continued to the best of my judgment. The spirit of the rules adopted will be maintained.

I acknowledge before this assemblage, representing as it does every section of our country, the obligation I am under to my countrymen for the great honor they have conferred upon me by returning me to the highest office within their gift and the further obligation resting upon me to render to them the best services within my power. This I promise, looking forward with the greatest anxiety to the day when I shall be released from responsibilities which, at times are almost overwhelming and from which I have scarcely had a respite since the eventful firing upon Fort Sumter, in April, 1861, to the present day. My services were then tendered and accepted under the first call for troops, growing out of that event. I did not ask for place or position and was entirely without both personal or political influence, but was resolved to perform my part in a struggle threatening the very existence of the nation. I performed a conscientious duty without asking either for promotion or command and without a revengeful feeling toward any section or individual. Notwithstanding this, throughout the war and from my candidacy for my present office in 1868 to the close of the late Presidential campaign I have been the subject of abuse and slander scarcely ever equalled in political history, which, however, I feel that I can to-day disregard in view of your verdict, which I gratefully accept as my vindication.

Who is the Witness in the Case of Stokes.

It seems very difficult to hang people anywhere in this country, but especially so in New York, where the law's delay has been successfully invoked in behalf of Stokes. It is now said that new testimony has been found and that a different aspect will be put upon the case, that the essential element of malice can be disproved, and the theory of self-defence established. But how does it happen that the witness now spoken of could not be produced, before. She knew that the trial was going on and could not have been ignorant of the value of her testimony; so that her absence, unless very fully and satisfactorily explained, will constitute of itself good ground to suspect her statement. But, on the other hand, if it should appear that new trustworthy evidence is to be had—evidence to put a new aspect on the case—then the public should be thankful that the prisoner is to have a third trial; for no one could desire to hang Stokes unless guilty. We shall await the appearance of the mysterious witness with great interest, and we confess, with some suspicion.

In his argument before Judge Carpenter, in Columbia, Attorney General Melton took occasion to say that in every instance where the State Treasurer or County Treasurers, have in violation of the provision of the Constitution, diverted funds in their hands from the purpose for which they were levied, he should hold them responsible under their official bonds, and make them answerable before the Courts, both civil and criminal.—*Ec.*

TWO VERDICTS.—An English jury, in a criminal case, brought in a verdict "guilty with some little doubt as to whether he is the man." The Police Committee twists the English verdict around and improves upon it in the following fashion: "Not guilty, though there is no doubt but these were the men."—*Courier*.

HYMENEAL.

MARRIED.—On the 6th of March, 1873, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. F. Auld, Mr. JOHN STREET, formerly of Georgia's Station, to Miss JOSEPHINE STRAUS. All of Orangeburg, S. C.

On the 2d of March, 1873, at the residence of Mr. John Keenly, by the Rev. H. D. Bolon, Mr. Patrick Davis, to Miss E. STURKEY. All of Orangeburg County.

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On the 27th of February, 1873, at the residence of the bride's father by the Rev. W. F. Chaplin, Mr. JOHN HUES to Miss LAVENIA SMOAK.

On the 6th of February, 1873, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. W. F. Chaplin, Mr. LUCIUS B. GUTTO to Miss SARAH PEARSON. All of Orangeburg County.

IN THE COURT OF PROBATE.

Whereas, Mary Rose hath applied to me for letters of Administration on the Estate of Thomas P. Rose, late of Orangeburg County, deceased.

These are therefore to cite and admonish all and singular the Kindred and Creditors of the said deceased, to be and appear before me at a Court of Probate for the said County, to be holden at Orangeburg on the 3d day of March, 1873, at 10 o'clock A. M. to show cause if any, why the said Administration should not be granted.

Given under my hand and the Seal of my Court, this 7th day of Mar., A. D. 1873, and in the ninety-seventh year of American Independence.

[L.S.] AUG. B. KNOWLTON, Judge of Probate O. C.

Rural Carolinian.—March.

Practical men and deep thinkers are the leading contributors to the Rural Carolinian. They are not all practical farmers but they are all practical men.

In each number they afford an amount of mental pabulum, sufficient for a month's digestion of the ordinary agricultural intellect. The present number is particularly interesting and instructive. Low Middling's Farm Notes, and D. Wyatt Aiken's Article on Immigration and Labor, can be read over and over with profit.

Daniel Dickson, too, again appears in print. An article in a previous number from the pen of Dr. Pendleton, has contravened D. D.'s announced opinions and with few words as apology he blurted out a defence and re-assertion of his peculiar ideas. Mr. Dickson's strongest argument is his wonderful success and that has been such as to enforce the respect even of those who disagree with him.

Dr. C. U. Sheppard, Jr., gives an analysis of Marsh Mud and a short illustrative article, which is of special interest to low country farmers. The numerous correspondence attest the wide circulation of the magazine, and the esteem in which it is held by its readers.

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M. G. GARICK, Guardian. Mar 1st, 1873.—1m

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